I grew up in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Despite what the media may have showed you, Louisiana is more than a bunch of swamps and alligators. However, it is hot and very, very humid. I was raised on a small, one street neighborhood in a decent house. I was very close with my neighbors and still keep in touch with them. I was always playing sports outside, whether it was basketball in the driveway or football in the yard. I come from a white family, and my ancestors for the last three generations were born and raised in Louisiana. My mom has five siblings, and I have 15 cousins on my moms side, of which I am the youngest, and 12 on my dads side. I come from a middle class family. The public school system in Louisiana is not strong, so both my parents worked hard to provide me and my sister with private school education, and expected us to take advantage of that opportunity. I attended predominately white high school and middle school. I also was involved in basketball since a young age, and played on the high school team. Starting at a young age, I played on travel teams during the spring, which were composed of players of a wide range of race and socio economic background. I had a great time making friends with people different than me, and these experiences definitely helped broaden my understanding of different peoples unique situations that make them the people they are. I am thankful that sports provided me with an opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone. I am now a freshman pursuing a degree in Biology.